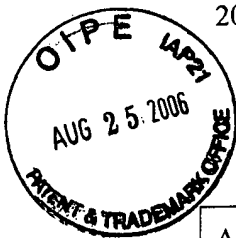


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ART UNIT: 1762  
EXAMINER: Elena Tsoy  
APPLICANT: Tienteh Chen  
SERIAL NO.: 10/769,385  
FILED: 1/30/04  
CONFRM. NO.: 8388  
DOCKET NO.: 200312792-1

FOR: SURFACE MODIFICATION OF SILICA  
IN AN AQUEOUS ENVIRONMENT

AMENDMENT/RESPONSE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 08/22/2006

I hereby certify that this paper or fee (along with any paper or fee referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Brenda Wiseman

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The present remarks are in response to the June 22, 2006 Office Action where the Examiner rejected claims 1-22. A request for continued examination (RCE) and appropriate fee authorization is filed herewith. Please reconsider the present application with the accompanying responsive remarks.